

under the heads of "their maintenance, their protection and their education." Of the last named he says: "The last duty of parents to their children is that of giving them an education suitable to their station in life; a duty pointed out by reason, and of far the greatest importance of any. For, as Puffendorf well observes, it is not easy to imagine or allow, that a parent has conferred any considerable benefit upon his child by bringing him into the world, if he afterwards entirely neglects his culture and education, and suffers him to grow up like a mere beast—to lead a life useless to others and shameful to himself. Yet, the municipal laws of most countries seem to be *defective in this point, by not constraining the parent to bestow a proper education upon his children.* Perhaps they thought it punishment enough to leave the parent who neglects the instruction of his family to labor under those griefs and inconveniences which his family, so uninstructed, will be sure to bring upon him. Our laws, though their defects in this particular cannot be denied, have, in one instance, made a wise provision for bringing up the rising generation: since the poor and laborious part of the community, when past the age of nurture, are taken out of the hands of their parents, by the statutes for apprenticing poor children, and are placed out by the public in such a manner as may render their abilities, in their several stations, of the greatest advantage to the commonwealth."

Chancellor Kent says: "The education of children in a manner suitable to their station and calling is another branch of parental duty, of imperfect obligation generally in the eye of the municipal law, but of very great importance to the welfare of the State. Without some preparation made in youth for the sequel of life, children of all conditions would probably become idle and vicious when they grow up, either from the want of good instruction and habits, and the means of sustenance, or from want of rational and useful occupation. A parent who sends his son into the world